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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF MARKET RASEN

Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1949.

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

JOHN POTTS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector.

AREA OF DISTRICT and GENERAL

Land	...	...	...	...	...	972 Acres
Water	...	...	...	...	...	4 Acres
Population (estimated 1949)	...	...	...	...	...	2210
Habitable Houses	...	...	...	...	...	710

The Rateable value of the District on the 1st April, 1949, was £11,288 and the product of the penny rate was £43/14/9 for the year ending 31st March, 1949.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

During the year only 5 cases of Infectious Disease were notified. Four cases of Whooping Cough and one of Tuberculous Meningitis made up this total. No epidemics occurred during the year. It should be noted that the town has been free from all other infectious diseases throughout the year.

No case of diphtheria has now occurred for seven years. There has been a steady rise in the number of children who have been immunised against diphtheria. A total of 61 children were immunised for the first time as against 44 and 27 in 1948 and 1947 respectively.

In additional 16 children received a further protective immunisation ("booster") during the year. Fourteen children were vaccinated against Smallpox.

HOUSING

Progress continues to be made in this respect though at a slower rate than in 1948. Fourteen Council Houses were completed and occupied and two houses were built by private enterprise. One flat was converted from a shop.

Since 1945, 44 Council Houses have been completed, 6 new Houses were erected by private enterprise.

Closing Orders were issued for two separate tenement houses and their inhabitants were rehoused in Council Houses.

The completion of suitable small bungalows for the rehousing of old people living in condemned property is still very necessary.

SANITATION and SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The transition from pan closets and privy middens to W.C.s. continues very slowly. During the war 7 closet conversions were made with connections to the Sewers. This brings the total of water closets in the town to approximately 342. The number of properties with privies and pail closets still out-numbers this at 368.

Twelve New Soil and ventilating shafts were fixed and three repaired. Twenty-two drainage services were reconstructed.

The installation of a new Detritus tank at the Sewage Works has helped in the treatment of the Sewage. The intake of sand and surplus water (sub-soil or drainwater) has continued.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The weight of refuse collected has continued to increase with the opening and occupation of the new Council Houses.

Available land for future tipping is severely limited and a new tipping area will be required in the near future.

INSPECTION of FOOD

During the year the Sanitary Inspector condemned 157lbs. of meat as unfit for human consumption.

In addition 63 tins of food of various kinds were withdrawn from sale. $3\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of tea was also found unfit for sale.

WATER SUPPLIES

The water supply comes from the Market Rasen Water Company. The quality of the water remains satisfactory.

There has been some improvement in the water supply to the higher levels of the town during the year. One chemical and bacteriological test made during the year yielded satisfactory results.

Eight houses had a water supply installed in doors making a total of 268 houses with an indoor water supply. There are still 442 houses without an indoor supply of water. In practically none of these houses are there adequate facilities for washing up indoors. The position in this respect is very unsatisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS

It will be noted that the number of deaths exceeds the number of births. This is the first time that this has occurred in recent years. However there are no deaths of infants under one year of age.

Cancer with 7 deaths, Heart Disease with 7 deaths and Intracranial Vascular Lesions (Apoplexy) with 6 deaths were the chief causes of mortality. They caused over half the total deaths.

Extract from the Vital Statistics for the year 1949

Total Live Births	...	...	...	31
Illegitimate Births	...	...	...	2
Total Deaths (All Causes)	...	...	...	39
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	Nil
Stillbirths	...	...	...	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Tubercular Meningitis	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	Nil
Measles	...	...	...	Nil
Total Notifications	...	...	...	5

CAUSES of DEATH (Civilians Only)

		Male	Female
Tubercular Meningitis		1	Nil
Bronchitis	...	4	1
Other Respiratory Diseases		1	1
Cancer of Breast	...	—	1
Cancer of Uterus		—	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	1	Nil
Cancer of all other sites		Nil	4
Nephritis	...	1	1
Influenza	...	Nil	2
Syphilitic Diseases	...	1	Nil
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	2	4
Heart Disease	...	3	4
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	Nil	2
All other Causes	...	3	1
Total Deaths	...	17	22

THE SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK IS AS FOLLOWS :

Total inspections made	...	...	...	272
Public Health inspections, excluding re-visits	...	...	...	145
Overcrowded housing inspections	...	...	...	3
Housing repair and maintenance	...	...	...	47
Infectious disease purpose	...	...	...	8
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	7
Verminous premises dealt with	...	...	...	2
Number of rooms disinfested	...	...	...	4
Articles destroyed due to disease and vermin	...	...	...	3
Refuse collection visits made	...	...	...	36
Visits made re refuse Bins	...	...	...	11
Work under the Factory Act, calls	...	...	...	45
Drainage inspections	...	...	...	30
do. (testing new work)	...	...	...	16
Shops and Food inspections	...	...	...	18
Fried Fish shop visits	...	...	...	4
Meat shop visits	...	...	...	9
Visit of Bakehouses	...	...	...	19
Inspections made at Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	78
Inspections made for the purpose of Rats and Mice (previous to treatment)	...	...	...	8
Inspections made at Closets and Conveniences	...	...	...	41
Inspections at Domestic water supply points...	...	...	...	5
Inspections and visits made for various reasons necessary, but excluded from the above figures	...	...	...	50

I wish to draw the attention of the Council to the Sanitary Inspector's Report and to the volume of work which he has carried out during the year.

I desire to thank you, Sir, and the Members of your Council for the assistance you have extended to me in the execution of my duties.

I have the honour to be Lady and Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,

R. J. R. MECREDY,
B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. and D.P.H.

